

## **Horry County**

### **1. What does educational achievement mean to our community?**

- Higher High School graduation rates
- Better educated work place
- Enhances opportunities to draw/ attract new business w/ improved employment
- Committee for better employment
- More students attend colleges & universities
- Raises the expectations for the next generation of students
- Keep young adults in the community
- Better schools impact quality of life
- Education is very important- entrusting students to the "system"
- Education achievement is directly related to economic achievement " continual improvement"

### **2. What is needed in our community so that ALL students can succeed? (Strengths & Challenges)**

- Expectation of high standards and efficient record keeping creates opportunities for all students to do and be more
- More businesses to participate in high performance partnerships w/ schools
- More community members to serve as tutors & mentors
- Work w/ employers to identify work place skills
- Motivate retirees to serve as tutors & mentors

#### **Strengths:**

- Being able to provide money for all programs for all who qualify
- Child Find/ Baby Net
- Emphasis on reading
- Use of literacy model
- Good library programs
- Acceptance of accountability by staff, administration, teachers, and school board
- General commitment to excellence and attaining performance goals
- MAP assessment for planning and communicating student performance to parents
- PLP, P/T Conferences
- GEP Research – based models for testing MAP (4 yr old program)
- Community – coastal tech solid waste
- Service learning
- Merit pay
- Stable funding

#### **Challenges:**

- Increasing parental involvement, depending upon definition
- Families and communities that do not see education as a priority
- Qualified staff and administration recruitment and retention
- Growing population (80% of homes don't have children in school)
- Transients

- Hispanics/ ESOL
- Growing student population (1000 in 2003)
- Declining per capita income
- Transience rate – large turnover in students
- Relationship between socioeconomic levels and education levels – programs to address this
- Varied socioeconomics - farming vs. business

**3. What programs, partnerships etc. work well in your community to support all students succeeding?**

- Partnerships & Community Support
- Volunteer programs
- Mentoring programs
- Internships
- Business partnerships – both as sponsors and as employees tutoring & mentoring
- Personalized learning conferences
- PTA/ PTO/ PTSO/ Booster Clubs
- Early childhood intervention programs
- Community agencies v organization & churches
- Educational access channel
- Horry & Georgetown county education Partnerships – Hub STW

**4. What can we do in our homes and neighborhoods to strengthen our schools?**

- Lobby our legislators to provide adequate funding
- Increase communication between schools, homes, and community
- Provide a secure environment
- Encourage parents to provide an environment in the home that supports student achievement
- Employees could review applicant's records (to include attendance, grades) as part of the interview
- Become involved at ALL LEVELS